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What Is Project ASK?

Written By:
Cana Curtis
Vice President Representing the
Shenandoah Region

What is Project ASK? A question I

know many of us have asked during our involvement in Virginia FBLA. Originated in 1975, Project ASK is a charity organization that is celebrating 40 years of service this October. The mission of

Project ASK is simple; make life better for children with cancer. That's it. They do everything in their power to make a child who is suffering with a horrible disease remember to smile. This organization started in the hospital waiting room of, what is now, the VCU hospital, by a group of parents waiting for their children to get out of treatment.



These parents aspired to find different ways to ease their children's pain, as well as their own. They began to collect different items such as books and toys to help the children deal with their situation. For themselves, they planned parent gatherings to help each other with the stress they were dealing with. A small group of innovative parents created an organization and titled it Project ASK to stand for assistance, support, and kindness. Eventually this expanded to an organization that has touched the lives of thousands of families with children battling cancer.

Virginia FBLA has actively been contributing to Project ASK since 1982. Our gift card collection around the holidays is just one of the many ways Virginia FBLA has donated over a million dollars to this organization. So next time your chapter is trying to decide what organization to donate to, don't forget Project ASK!

For more information:

[ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation Lead 2 Feed](#)

Get to Know Your

2015 - 2016 Virginia State Officer Team

Ryan Apigian

Position: President
High School: Robinson Secondary School
Region: Northern Virginia Region
Hobbies/Activities: Crew Rowing

Miranda Bolt

Position: Vice President at Large
High School: Floyd High School
Region: VWCC Region
Hobbies/Activities: Dance

Sean Howard

Position: Secretary/Treasurer
High School: Riverbend High School
Region: Germanna Region
Hobbies/Activities: Hanging out with friends

Camber Thornhill

Position: Reporter
High School: Giles High School
Region: New River Region
Hobbies/Activities: Softball and Outdoor Activities

Isaias Noda

Position: Parliamentarian
High School: Robinson Secondary School
Region: Northern Virginia Region
Hobbies/Activities: Playing the guitar

Monica Wuhrer

Position: Corresponding Secretary
High School: Robinson Secondary School
Region: Northern Virginia Region
Hobbies/Activities: Drawing

Sarah Patton

Position: Vice President Representing the VSU Region
High School: Matoaca High School
Region: VSU Region
Hobbies/Activities: Watching Youtube

Karena Oner

Position: Vice President Representing the Northern Virginia Region
High School: Robinson Secondary School
Region: Northern Virginia Region
Hobbies/Activities: Writing

Katherine Vaughn

Position: Vice President Representing the Germanna Region

High School: Brentsville District High School

Region: Germanna Region

Hobbies/Activities: Riding Horses

Halley Stapleton

Position: Vice President Representing the UVA College at Wise Region

High School: Virginia High School

Region: UVA College at Wise Region

Hobbies/Activities: Spending time at the beach

Nathan Salamonsky

Position: Vice President Representing the Longwood Region

High School: Powhatan High School

Region: Longwood Region

Hobbies/Activities: Golf and FBLA

Olivia Kinser

Position: Vice President Representing the New River Region

High School: Tazewell High School

Region: New River Region

Hobbies/Activities: Band

Christopher Emodi

Position: Vice President Representing the Tidewater Region

High School: Landstown High School

Region: Tidewater Region

Hobbies/Activities: Anything with his friends

Willow Pederson

Position: Vice President Representing the Capitol Region

High School: West Point High School

Region: Capitol Region

Hobbies/Activities: Chorus

Cana Curtis

Position: Vice President Representing the Shenandoah Region

High School: Sherando High School

Region: Shenandoah Region

Hobbies/Activities: Arcade

Tara Purdy

Position: Vice President Representing the Colonial Region

High School: Gloucester High School

Region: Colonial Region

Hobbies/Activities: Being with friends

Rachel McDaniel

Position: Vice President Representing the VWCC Region

High School: Floyd High School

Region: VWCC Region

Hobbies/Activities: Soccer and Playing Music

What is ASK Hero?

Written By:

Monica Wuhrer

State Corresponding Secretary

Virginia FBLA-PBL's state service project is Project Ask Childhood Cancer Foundation and our support allows the organization to conduct diagnostic research, fund the position for a patient counselor, and serve as a support group for families of children with cancer. Project ASK funds clinical and laboratory research at the Medical College of Virginia to aid in finding causes and cures of childhood cancer. The foundation serves to "make life better for children with cancer" and Virginia FBLA is determined to aid them with this promise.

Local chapters can get involved by making donations through fundraisers and conducting a special drive for gift cards which are requested by the center, including those from Walmart and Wal-Mart. These gift cards are given to the children with cancer as holiday gifts which could make their lives just a little better after being burdened by hospital bills and other expenses. Awareness campaigns are also an important facet of the project and chapters can promote the issue in their schools and communities. Gift card drives in local chapters may be promoted on social media or other platforms to raise awareness to the foundation and the lives of children with cancer as well as to collect donations. The possibilities are endless.

Many chapters wish to challenge their members in making a contribution which could greatly impact children with cancer and their families through the ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation. Virginia FBLA would like to honor such hardworking chapters with ASK Hero status. ASK Hero is an award which may be bestowed on local chapters for contributing at least 100 dollars to project ASK. This honor will be recognized at Virginia State Leadership Conferences through a ribbon for members to wear on their namebadges. This serves to show the hard work and dedication local chapters put into their Project ASK campaigns and to motivate other chapters to participate and make contributions towards this achievement.

ASK Hero status may be promoted on the regional level in order to work towards regional Project ASK goals. Regions may host competitions or set goals which will encourage local chapters to participate. This encouragement will promote chapters to achieve ASK Hero status through their contributions. Local chapters should make it their goal to achieve ASK Hero and motivate their members to not only donate gift cards themselves, but to promote the cause to their classmates, families, and community.

Virginia FBLA Social Media Buzz Squad

The Virginia Social Media Buzz Team is a group of 6 State Officers.

Ryan Apigian (State President)

Monica Wuhler (State Corresponding Secretary)

Karenna Oner (State VP Representing NOVA)

Nathan Salomonsky (State VP Representing Longwood)

Camber Thornhill (State Reporter)

Halley Stapleton (State VP Representing UVa's College at Wise)

Stay in contact and keep up to date with information from your state team!



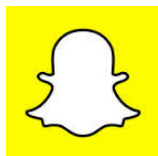
@Virginia Future Business Leaders of America FBLA



@VAFBLAPBL



@VAFBLA



The Social Media Buzz Squad is currently in progress to obtain a Snapchat and a Wufoo account for continuous involvement with all Virginia members!
Stay tuned for more information!



Sponsorships Tips and Tricks

Sponsorships can be a tricky task to members who are new to the organization. They can also be tricky to veteran members. Sponsors are a big part of any organization. Here are a few tips and tricks to help you with obtaining sponsors.

- Make sure the sponsor knows who you are and who you are representing. You always want the sponsor to be informed of you and the organization.
- Give the sponsor your contact information. You never know when they may have questions or concerns.
- There is a wide variety of people you can contact
 - Local Businesses
 - Local/Regional Advisers and Directors
 - Local FBLA Advisers/Regional Officers
 - School Board Members
 - Community Organizations
- Always write a thank you letter to the sponsor. Make sure they know you are thankful for their donation.

For more information on sponsors contact your regional director or any state officer!

History of Project ASK

Written By:

Nathan Salomonsky

Vice President Representing the Longwood Region

This year is the 40th year Project Ask has been helping families dealing with childhood cancer. It is a non-profit organization that helps not only with the affect on a family's budget of medical treatment but also with the emotional toll associated with childhood cancer.

The organization was founded by parents sitting in the waiting room of the hospital while their children went through treatment. An interesting fact is that the first funded position was a Chaplin in 1978. Project ASK helps approximately 500 children and their families each year in Virginia, where 1-2 children are diagnosed with cancer each day!

Virginia FBLA's state service project is Project ASK. The commitment to Project ASK began in 1982. Since then, FBLA has raised over \$1 million in donations for the organization. Project ASK stands for Assistance, Support, and Kindness. And through their work, they do exactly that. Moral, spiritual, and financial support is given to

the children and their families whom are in need. This is an incredible organization that has brought comfort to families affected by childhood cancer for 40 years.

Want to find out more about Project ASK?

Contact your Regional Director or Regional President.

Check out the Virginia FBLA website at www.vafbla-pbl.org for more information.

ASK
DONATE



http://www.vafbla-pbl.org/docs/forms/_1213/pbl/ASKForm.doc

How Can Your Chapter Benefit from ASK?

Written by:

Tara Purdy

Vice President Representing Colonial Region

Project ASK is an FBLA State Service Project. ASK is a non-profit association of parent, health professionals, and concerned citizens. The support of FBLA allows Project ASK to fund the position for a patient counselor, conduct diagnostic research, and serve as a support group for the families of children with cancer. FBLA chapters can help by making donations with money they earn by fundraising. Chapters can conduct special drives for certain items needed. By encouraging members of FBLA chapters to talk about Project ASK and inform the public the word will get out about what they do and how they help people.

Project ASK not only helps children with cancer and their families but it also helps members of FBLA to see what being a part of things greater than themselves will

do. Project ASK is a great way to help members develop a love for helping others. Since Project ASK is an all-volunteer organization it is a great way for people to really get to know the people they are helping. They will not only feel great for doing something to help those less fortunate but they will also meet other volunteers who feel the same way about helping. Project ASK is a way to help children in need and a great way to develop a love for seeing others days brighten.

Visit ASK's Website for Upcoming Events:
www.askweb.org

IMPORTANT

Do not send your contributions through the ASK Website; contributions should be sent to the state office.

http://www.vafbla-pbl.org/docs/forms/_1213/pbl/ASKForm.doc

Upcoming ASK Events:

[Dunkin' Donuts Munchkins Run](#)
Saturday, November 21

